BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENT

Claim 22 has been canceled. Claim 1 has been amended as supported by claim 1 as originally filed.

No new matter is believed to have been added by entry of this amendment. Entry and favorable reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of this amendment Claims 1-21 will now be active in this application. Claims 4 and 5 are withdrawn from consideration.

REMARKS

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Lightfoot for the helpful and courteous discussion with Applicants' Representative on March 8, 2011. The claims as amended were discussed. It was noted that none of the cited references discloses hydrophobizing the microparticles with component i) which is an **oligomerized cocondensate of 3,3,4,4,5,5,6,6,7,7,8,8,8-tridecafluorooctyltriethoxysilane and 3-aminopropyltriethoxysilane**.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application, as amended, in view of the following remarks.

Withdrawn claims 4 and 5 should be rejoined once claim 1 is found to be allowable. Notable, the withdrawn claims depend directly or indirectly on claim 1.

The rejections of the Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Nun as well as over Nun in view of Baumann et al are traversed.

The present invention as set forth in **amended Claim 1** relates to a method for producing a surface,

the method comprising:

fixing microparticles to a carrier layer or a substrate either before or after hydrophobizing of said microparticles;

hydrophobizing said microparticles with component i),

to form a resulting surface having a surface structure,

the surface structure having elevations which are formed by said microparticles,

said elevations having a mean height of from 20 nm to 25 μm and a mean separation of from 20 nm to 25 μm,

the microparticles having a particle diameter of from 0.02 to 100 μm and having been hydrophobized with component i);

the resulting surface having self-cleaning, oleophobic, lipophobic and lactophobic properties; and

wherein the component i) is an oligomerized cocondensate of 3,3,4,4,5,5,6,6,7,7,8,8,8-tridecafluorooctyltriethoxysilane and 3-amino-propyltriethoxysilane.

Nun as well as Nun in view of Baumann et al fail to disclose or suggest a method as claimed in which the microparticles are hydrophobized with component i) which is an **oligomerized cocondensate of 3,3,4,4,5,5,6,6,7,7,8,8,8-tridecafluorooctyltriethoxysilane and 3-aminopropyltriethoxysilane**.

Further, the limitations of **Claims 6-21** are not disclosed or suggested by Nun or Nun in view of Baumann et al.

During the above-mentioned discussion, the Examiner pointed to example 2 of Nun et al. which discloses tridecafluorooctyltriethoxysilane in ethanol (Dynasilan 8262). However, this is not an **oligomerized cocondensate of 3,3,4,4,5,5,6,6,7,7,8,8,8-tridecafluorooctyltriethoxysilane and 3-aminopropyltriethoxysilane**.

Further, in the present invention, the particles are hydrophobicized with **oligomerized cocondensate of 3,3,4,4,5,5,6,6,7,7,8,8,8-tridecafluorooctyltriethoxysilane and 3-amino-**

propyltriethoxysilane in such a way that self-cleaning, oleophobic, lipophobic, and lactophobic properties are obtained *simultaneously* for the resulting surface.

Nun et al. discloses the hydrophobicization of particles in paragraph [0025], in paragraph [0028], the fluorine-containing compounds of the carrier are disclosed, and in paragraphs [0046] and [0047], particles with hydrophobic properties achieved with perfluoroalkylsilanes are disclosed.

However, Nun et al. remain silent about how to achieve *the combination of the properties* as claimed in the present invention.

Therefore, the rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Nun as well as over Nun in view of Baumann et al are believed to be unsustainable as the present invention is neither anticipated nor obvious and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

This application presents allowable subject matter, and the Examiner is kindly requested to pass it to issue. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the claims or otherwise wish to discuss this case, he is kindly invited to contact Applicants' below-signed representative, who would be happy to provide any assistance deemed necessary in speeding this application to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Kirsten A. Grueneberg, Ph.D.
Registration No.: 47,297

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
NFO:KAG:
(OSMMN 08/07)